March 28, 2016

ISLS Newsletter - Spring 2016

by International Society of the Learning Sciences

In this issue...

Message from the ISLS President
contributed by Carolyn Rose

Carolyn Rose
Current President

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Eleni Kyza
Past-President

Sadhana Puntambekar
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Spring is in the air, and we are in the last few busy months of preparation for this year's conference! Camera ready versions of accepted submissions are in, and the registration is live. Soon we will be together in Singapore!

As my term as President is winding down, I am thankful to have had the opportunity to

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Awards Committee. Both have hit the ground running and are making valuable contributions to the Society. You'll be hearing more in the coming year about a society communication plan and two awards programs. In addition to our within-community efforts, we have worked hard to reach out in bridge building efforts. Presidents and Presidents-Elect from ISLS, UMAP, AIED, EA-TEL, Learning@Scale, IEDMS, SoLAR, and CIRCL continue to meet semi-regularly to work towards better coordination and less fragmentation in the field. A bridge building President's panel will be held at the Learning Analytics and Knowledge conference coming up in April. And following that, there will be a one day leadership retreat in which discussions will continue in earnest about an in progress white paper to seek seed funding for cross-community events and efforts.

As we look forward to the conference there are some new things to keep an eye out for. First, in the opening session, the committees will do a lively firehose session to alert the membership about exciting happenings and opportunities to get involved. We welcome newcomers and long time community members alike to join together in the work of the community. Second, as you have been hearing, during the conference we will hold the official vote over the proposed Bylaws change. Please see the website for more information (https://www.isls.org/about/society-governance-and-organizing-documents). The vote will be held online so that even *current* members who are not present at the conference can vote. Third, on Wednesday evening of the conference, we are trying something new: a CSCL Cocktail hour! You do not need to be a CSCL Community participant to join in. In fact, we very much welcome all ICLS participants to join in and find out more about the exciting work of the CSCL community. There will be refreshments, entertainment, and highlighting of some key research contributions. The plenary Presidential session, which will be held on the final afternoon of the conference, will show off work mapping out the field using scientometric techniques and other methods so we can take time to reflect on how far we have come as a community and where we are heading.

Have a great Spring and even better Summer!

Sincerely,

Carolyn Rose, ISLS President

ICLS 2016 in Singapore
Contributed by Chee-Kit Looi and Wenli Chen, ICLS 2016 Chairs

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the National Institute of Education (NIE), Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, during 20 to 24 June 2016.

The conference theme "Transforming Learning, Empowering Learners" directs our gaze to the commitment of the Learning Sciences to provide a more insightful understanding of how people learn. As we trace the genesis of the Learning Sciences, we are reminded of the main goal of this field of research, that is, to gain a deep understanding of the conditions and processes that lead to effective learning, and to use the research findings to redesign learning environments to bring about deep learning. The conference website is available at https://www.isls.org/icls/2016/index.html

Final acceptance rate information

ICLS 2016 received a good number of submissions this year (571). The conference submission process was very competitive. The overall acceptance rate for submissions was 37%. We accepted 65% of symposium submissions, 31% of full papers, 34% of short papers, and 43% of posters.

Keynotes

ICLS 2016 has announced 3 keynote talks.

Elsbeth Stern   Yael Kali   David Hung

ICLS 2016 Keynote Speakers

- Elsbeth Stern, Professor, ETH Zürich, Switzerland *Educational Neuroscience: A field between false hopes and realistic expectations*.
- Yael Kali, Associate Professor, University of Haifa, Israel, *Can design research transform learning in teacher-researcher partnerships?*
- David Hung, Professor, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, *The diffusion of inquiry based practices in the Singapore education system: Navigating eddies of the 21st century.*

Invited Symposia

ICLS 2016 will also feature 3 invited symposia.

- *Beyond Tried and True: The Challenge of Education for Innovation,* led by Carl Bereiter, Marlene Scardamalia, and colleagues
- *Future of the CSCL community*, Sten Ludvigsen and colleagues from the editorial board of ijCSCL
- *Analytics of Social Processes in Learning Contexts: A Multi-Level Perspective,* led by Carolyn Rose & colleagues,

Pre-conference Programme
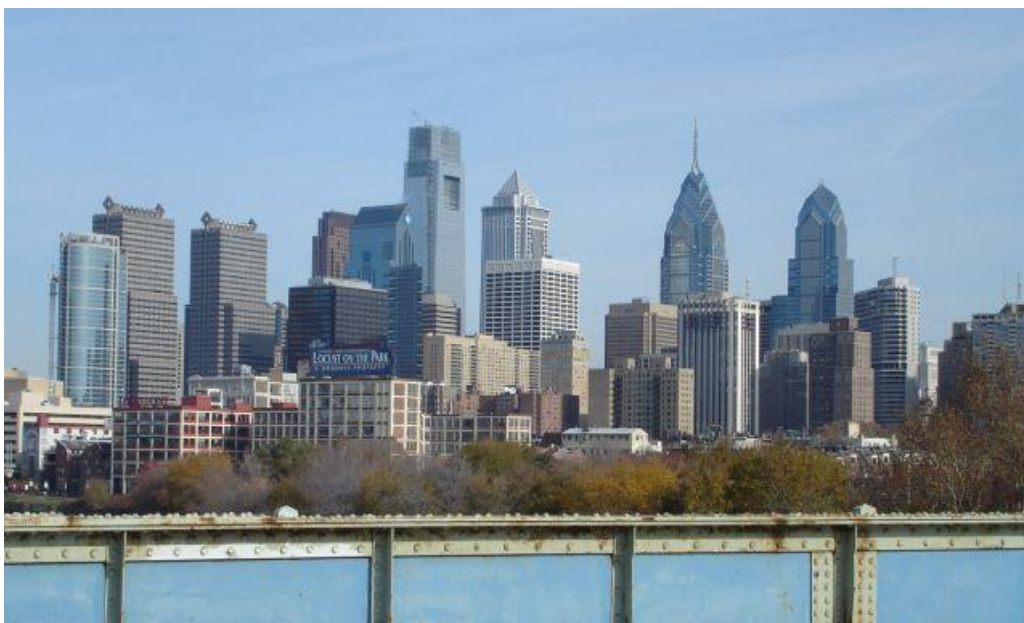
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Workshops. For more information on workshops, see https://www.isls.org/icls/2016/preconferencesessions.html

Social Programme

The social programme for ICLS 2016 includes a welcome reception on the beautiful NIE campus and a banquet dinner which will be held on the island of Sentosa next to the sea. Indeed, you might be able to enjoy the beautiful sunset at the Sentosa beach just before the conference banquet at the Shangri-La Hotel.

CSCL 2017 in Philadelphia, PA - USA
MAKING A DIFFERENCE: PRIORITIZING EQUITY AND ACCESS IN CSCL

Conference Chairs

Nancy Songer, Aroutis Foster, Brian K. Smith, Susan Yoon, Yasmin Kafai
Overview

We welcome you all to CSCL 2017, the 12th International Conference on Computer Supported Collaborative Learning. The conference is a major international event, organized biennially by the International Society of the Learning Sciences, which gathers together people involved in all aspects of the field of technology-based collaborative learning, including research, education, training and technology. The conference will be held on Drexel University's campus and is co-hosted by Drexel University and the University of Pennsylvania.

CSCL 2017 will prioritize CSCL work that discusses ways to broaden the CSCL

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The conference will be organized around the three strands of research and practice.

- Strand 1: Equity and Access Enabled Through Life wide Learning and/or CSCL in Informal Learning Environments. This theme focuses on tools and research studies that emphasize access to CSCL environments or learning through informal tools or learning settings, including workplace learning. This strand is related to the larger theme of equity and access with and through CSCL resources, as it emphasizes work that studies CSCL tools and learning contexts across a wide range of parameters.
- Strand 2: Access and Equity in High Quality Knowledge. This theme focuses on how CSCL pedagogies, theories, technologies and assessments can make 21st century practices, real world problem solving, complex thinking skills, and sophisticated topics widely accessible to learners from different backgrounds – for example, increasing participation of women in STEM fields, or motivating more students to pursue higher education.
- Strand 3: Equity and Access through Culturally Responsive Pedagogies. This theme emphasizes tools or work that are designed to build on or work with culturally responsive teaching/resources/learning to improve the learning and academic achievement of culturally and linguistically diverse learners. This theme also looks at work that examines how computers enable building networks to increase social, human, and political capital.

Deadlines

November 1, 2016: Long paper, short paper, posters, and symposia proposals
December 9, 2016: Pre-conference workshop proposals
January 13, 2016: Doctoral Consortium, Early Career Workshop, and Mid-Career Workshop proposals

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New ijCSCL Editor Named: Sten Ludvigsen

After a formal search process, Sten Ludvigsen has been named Editor-inChief of the International Journal of Computer Supported Collaborative Learning (ijCSCL) for 2016-2019. Many thanks to Gerry Stahl for his years of service in launching ijCSCL and establishing it as a high quality source for CSCL research!

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The ISLS newsletter is prepared by the ISLS Communications Committee. Current members include Victor Lee and Heisawn Jeong (Co-Chairs), Christa Asterhan, Flavio Azevedo, Eleni Kyza, Mariana Levin, Janet Walkoe, and Jason Yip. Thanks to Chee-Kit Looi, Wenli Chen, and Susan Yoon for their contributions. For future contributions, send a message to isls.comm.committee@gmail.com. To join the committee, contact one of the co-chairs.

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